

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 82

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Don Lorton for his astute service to Cleveland and Bradley Counties and to congratulate him upon receiving the Varnell Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Don Lorton, retired President of the Maytag Appliance Group, is one such estimable person who carries the greatest integrity and probity into all his chosen endeavors; he was recently selected to receive the Varnell Leadership Award, a prestigious honor given by the Cleveland and Bradley County Chamber of Commerce at its annual meetings to recognize outstanding community leaders for their numerous accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man is described as a "multitalented businessman who distinguished himself as a visionary leader and who considers excellence to be a daily standard." Under Mr. Lorton's guidance, Maytag Cleveland Cooking Products and the Maytag Corporation attained a high level of excellence; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton's professional career in the appliance industry spanned an impressive thirty-nine years and included corporate promotions to the offices of President of the Magic Chef Company in 1991, Maytag Diversified Operations in 1992, and the Maytag North American Appliance Group in 1995; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton has utilized his talents and success to participate in and lead numerous fundraisers and charitable events in Cleveland and Bradley Counties and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, a steadfast advocate of public education, he has served as a board member of the Cleveland Education Foundation from its inception in 1996 and was a key figure in creating the combined Bradley/Cleveland Public Education Foundation. He served as President of the joint foundation through its formative first two years and continues to serve on the board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton serves with distinction as the current Chair of Bradley Healthcare Foundation's Business Foundations Committee and the Cleveland Family YMCA's Capital Campaign Steering Committee. He also serves on the President's Council for Junior Achievement and is a permanent member of First Baptist Church's Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, this man's remarkable spirit of volunteerism earned him the United Way of Bradley County's William F. Johnson Sr. Community Service Award in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton has been proclaimed as a true leader due to "his willingness to step forward in a leadership capacity "and he has the" leadership skills to step back and serve in a support role and help guide new leaders through a project"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton is an extremely ambitious person who epitomizes the character and commitment to public service needed to win the Varnell Leadership Award; he continually reaches out to his community, cultivating the necessary ideals in an effort to make it a prosperous and thriving place for all who reside therein; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lorton is wholly committed to the noble precept of contributing leadership through the development and implementation of ideas, and has proven the benefits of struggling through adverse conditions for the good of one's community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Mr. Lorton for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee, congratulate him upon his reception of the Varnell Leadership Award, and salute his unswerving commitment to community leadership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.